

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/719,209

Applicant(s)

THEISS ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Scott B. Geyer

2829

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an election, received on 5-12-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 1103
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of claims 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 in Paper No. 0504 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the limitations of all claims (1-23) should be searchable together. However, due to the establishment of allowable subject matter in elected claim 1, all claims dependent upon claim 1 are hereby rejoined and allowed, as well as independent claim 8 and its dependent claims. The establishment of allowable subject matter is detailed below.

Information Disclosure Statement

The references cited within the IDS document, submitted on November 21, 2003, have been considered.

Drawings

The drawings submitted on November 21, 2003 are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-23 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The prior art of record and to the examiner's knowledge does not teach or render obvious, at least to the skilled artisan, the instant invention regarding:

An article (i.e. a semiconductor device) including a gate electrode, a gate dielectric, source and drain regions and a semiconductor layer, in combination with a shadow mask that is *permanently affixed* to a substrate, wherein the shadow mask aperture defines the source and drain regions, as recited in independent claim 1; and

An article (i.e. a semiconductor device) including a gate electrode, a gate dielectric, source and drain regions and two (i.e. first and second) semiconductor features, in combination with a shadow mask that is *permanently affixed* to a substrate, wherein the shadow mask aperture defines the two semiconductor features, as recited in independent claim 8.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The following references are cited as being particularly relevant to the applicant's invention: Dimitrakopoulos et al. (5,946,551) and Lakhani et al. (4,679,311).

Dimitrakopoulos et al. teach a thin film organic transistor structure having source and drain regions, but is silent as to a permanently affixed shadow mask. Lakhani et al. also teach a transistor structure having a gate, source and drain regions. However, the gate electrode is utilized as the permanently affixed shadow mask, and the gate electrode of Lakhani et al. does not have an aperture which defines regions for the source and drain.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott B. Geyer whose telephone number is (571) 272-1958. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays, between 10:00am - 6:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax

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phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SBG 5/25/04

SBG
May 25, 2004


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